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The Tangi Times

★ ★ ★ WEEKEND WARRIOR EDITION ★ ★ ★

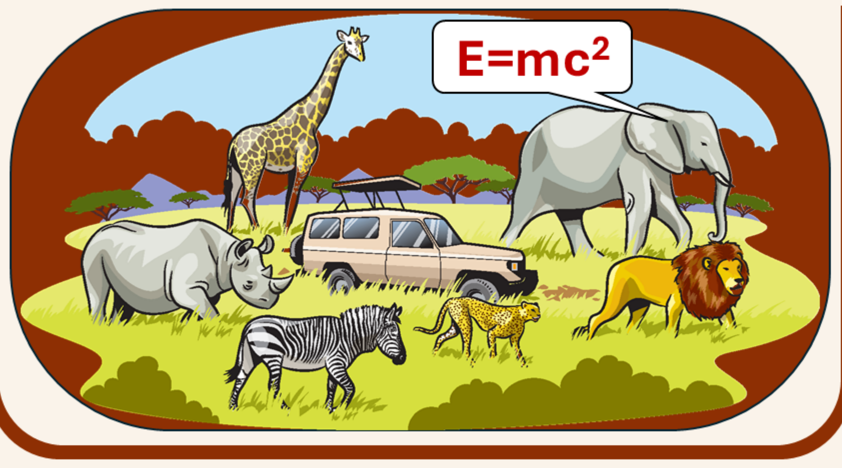
FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025 ONE DOLLAR

Restore the Wild Side of Learning

By STEFANIE BROOKE • Tangi Times Community Journalist

Are you a mud loving, trash bag-toting do-gooder? It's time to roll up those sleeves, dig out your gardening gloves, and join the quest to bring Southeastern Louisiana University's Outdoor Classroom at North Oak Park back to its former glory. The Gardeners' Guild is leading the charge, and they need your help to turn a once-lively learning space – now sadly littered – back into a beautiful outdoor oasis where students can once again study the magic of Louisiana's wild plant and animal life.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, June 18, 2025. From 9 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, volunteers will be coming and going like busy little bees, working together to clean up and restore this special patch of nature. The address is 2699 North Oak Street in Hammond, which just might be your new favorite place to get a little dirt under your nails for a good cause.



This is a come-and-go event, so whether you've got an hour or the whole day, your help is welcome and appreciated. Everyone's invited – friends, families, students, curious strangers, or anyone who's ever been personally offended by a soda can in a flowerbed. Just bring your gloves, wear long pants and sleeves (the thorns and poison ivy like to keep things interesting), and get ready to do some good, old-fashioned beautifying.

You won't be alone – there will be water to keep you cool, good company to keep you laughing, and plenty of feel-good vibes from knowing you're doing something awesome for the community. Plus, if you've ever wanted to say you helped rescue a classroom from a mountain of litter, now's your chance.

Not sure what to expect at a cleanup event? Here's the scoop: wear something you don't mind getting a little dirty, bring a hat and sunscreen, and pace yourself; hydration and snack breaks are not just allowed, they're encouraged. Trash bags and inspiration will be in plentiful supply.

So if you've got a soft spot for nature and a tough spot for trash, come join the cleanup crew. Let's turn litter back into life, one soggy paper cup at a time.

Sign up to be part of the action at https://linktr.ee/horticulturalsociety.

Mailbox Magic – Rediscovering Pen Palships

By STEFANIE BROOKE • Tangi Times Community Journalist

Before instant messages, emojis, and 3am "u up?" texts, there was something slower, sweeter, and way more exciting than anything digital – good old-fashioned pen pals. And every June 1st, we celebrate them on National Pen Pal Day, a charming little holiday dedicated to handwritten letters, global friendships, and the joy of getting something in the mail that isn't a bill or an ad for tile flooring.

So what exactly is a pen pal? It's someone you exchange letters with regularly, usually through the mail and often from far away. It's like texting, but it smells like paper and comes with a stamp.

The heyday of pen pals was the mid-20th century – 1950s to 1980s – when schools, magazines, parents, and even cereal boxes encouraged kids and teens to write to others around the world. Pen pal clubs matched people up across states, countries, and continents. It was exciting, exotic, and sometimes a little weird in the best way.

Here's a fun fact: during the Cold War, pen pal programs between American and Soviet schoolchildren were promoted as a way to promote peace and understanding. Who knew a doodled envelope could be so powerful?

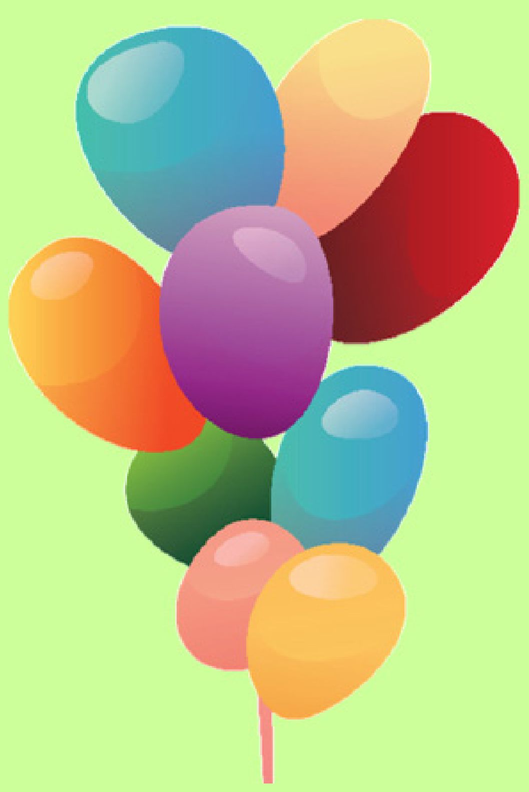
The benefits of having a pen pal are surprisingly impressive. It improves writing skills, encourages empathy, boosts mental health, and provides a connection that's more meaningful than a double tap on a photo. Plus, it's just plain fun. Who doesn't love opening the mailbox to find a handwritten note instead of a reminder to change your car's oil?

Sure, the art of letter writing is fading a bit in our fast-paced world, but that's what makes it so special. Getting a letter now feels like receiving treasure.

And writing one? It makes you slow down, think, and create something thoughtful. It's like meditation, but with stickers and sparkly gel pens.

See MAILBOX MAGIC, Page 5

June is National Give a Bunch of Balloons Month



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What's inside this issue?

Worldly Wisdom with Miss Taken

You Just CAN'T make this stuff UP

THE CROSSROADS Truth? Satire? You Decide.

How it Works TANGIPAHOA

and much more!

One Dollar

Weekend Weather

Saturday 6/7	Sunday 6/8
95 24%	93 36%
75 11%	74 24%

From The Tangi Times Weekend Weather Team

Bob Brick

Margaret Oar

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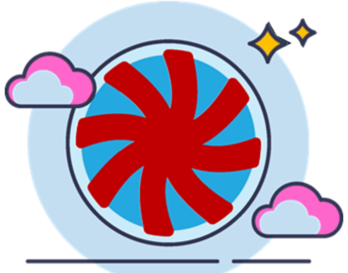
meme WARRIOR

Why do you always post so many memes?



Because I don't have the body for an Only Fans page.
Next question, please.

The Tangi Times

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movie quote

Challenge

Can you cite the movie that featured this memorable quote? Email the answer to publisher@tangitimes.com.

"To infinity and beyond!"

The Tangi Times

Congratulations to Kimberly S. Guillory for being the first to correctly identify last week's challenge from The Sandlot!

A Message from Robby Miller

Here in south Louisiana, we like to think there are four seasons – football, Mardi Gras, crawfish, and the fourth is hurricane season, which officially begins this week.

Of course, Tangipahoa Parish residents know that the weather does not pay attention to the calendar. We've experienced ice on Mardi Gras, heat waves in October, and yes, the occasional hurricane in the month of June. As a result, most of us keep a watchful eye on the tropics, especially this time of year.

At Parish Government, we have been shoring up our plans for this hurricane season. Each year, we tweak our plans based on past experiences, as I'm sure you do in your own homes.

Our Office of Emergency Preparedness offers some great tips on how to prepare for hurricane season. Some of their recommendations are available on our website at https://tangipahoa.org/government/emergency-preparedness. There, you'll find info on how to prepare for a weather emergency, floods and lightning, as well as making plans for your pets in an emergency situation. You can also sign up for our FREE emergency notification program, TangiAlert.

In Tangipahoa Parish, we have weathered many storms. Together we'll be ready to face anything that comes our way. Let's get ready and #GetAGamePlan to get through this hurricane season safely.

--Robby

Robby Miller
Tangipahoa Parish President

Safety Tip of the Day

Being Followed

If you ever suspect you are being followed, do not drive home. Keep the doors locked, windows up, and call 911.

The operator will instruct you on exactly what to do and most likely it will be to drive to the nearest police station.

If you see something, say something.
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WHAT'S HAPPENING!! in Tangi

Friday June 6
6-8 pm
Book Clubbin
Crescent Lounge
120 W Pine St., Ponchatoula

Friday June 6
7pm
Live After Five
Thomas Cain
170 W Hickory St., Ponchatoula

Saturday June 7 and 14
10:30 am
Nutrition Partnership Program
Audubon Regional Library
6108 Highway 10, Greensburg

Sat June 7 & Sun June 8
11am
Grand opening – Chiefs Pub
165 W. Pine St., Ponchatoula

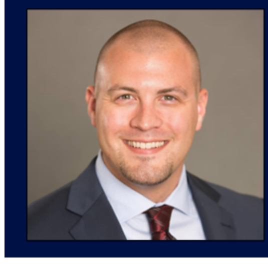
Monday June 9
10 am
Audubon Regional Library's Summer Reading Performer: Nature on the Geaux
2637 Highway 10, Greenburg

Tuesday June 10
4:30-6:30pm
Tangipahoa Chamber After Hours Celebrating Frances Chauvin Day
Oak Knoll Country Club
45246 Country Club Rd., Hammond

Thursday June 12
6 pm
Wine Bingo
Crescent Lounge
120 W Pine St., Ponchatoula

Saturday June 14
10:30 am
Fireman's Poker Run
Boopalus
29592 Highway 22, Springfield

coverage for wherever you call home



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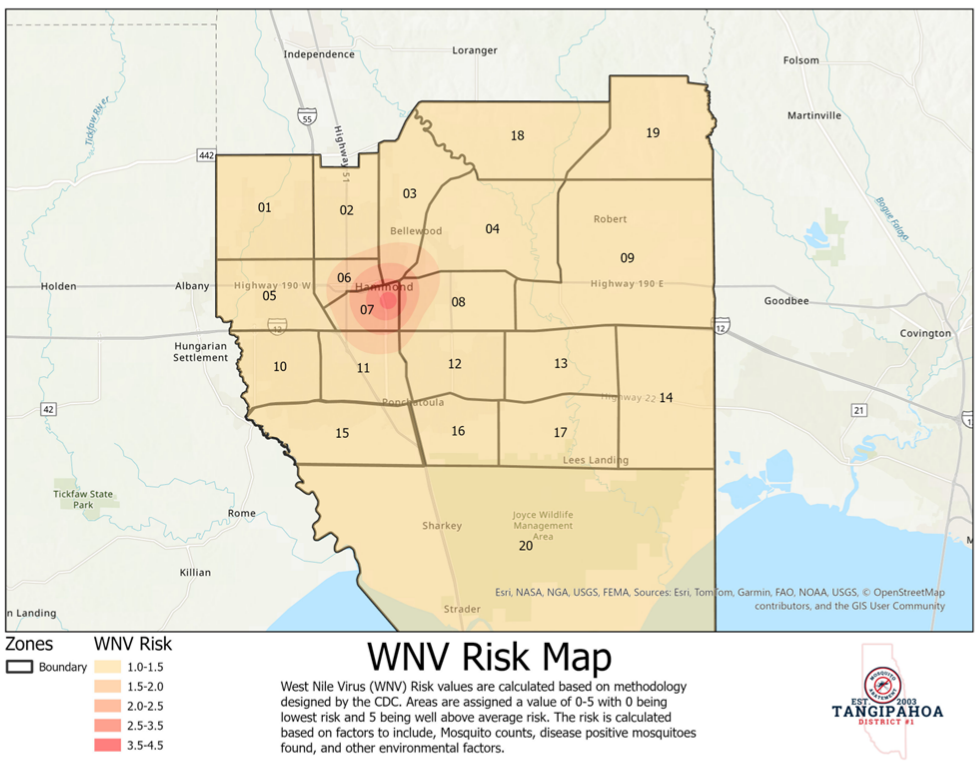
West Nile Virus Detected in Tangipahoa Parish



Zones
▭ Boundary

WNV Risk
1.0-1.5
1.5-2.0
2.0-2.5
2.5-3.5
3.5-4.5

WNV Risk Map

West Nile Virus (WNV) Risk values are calculated based on methodology designed by the CDC. Areas are assigned a value of 0-5 with 0 being lowest risk and 5 being well above average risk. The risk is calculated based on factors to include, Mosquito counts, disease positive mosquitoes found, and other environmental factors.

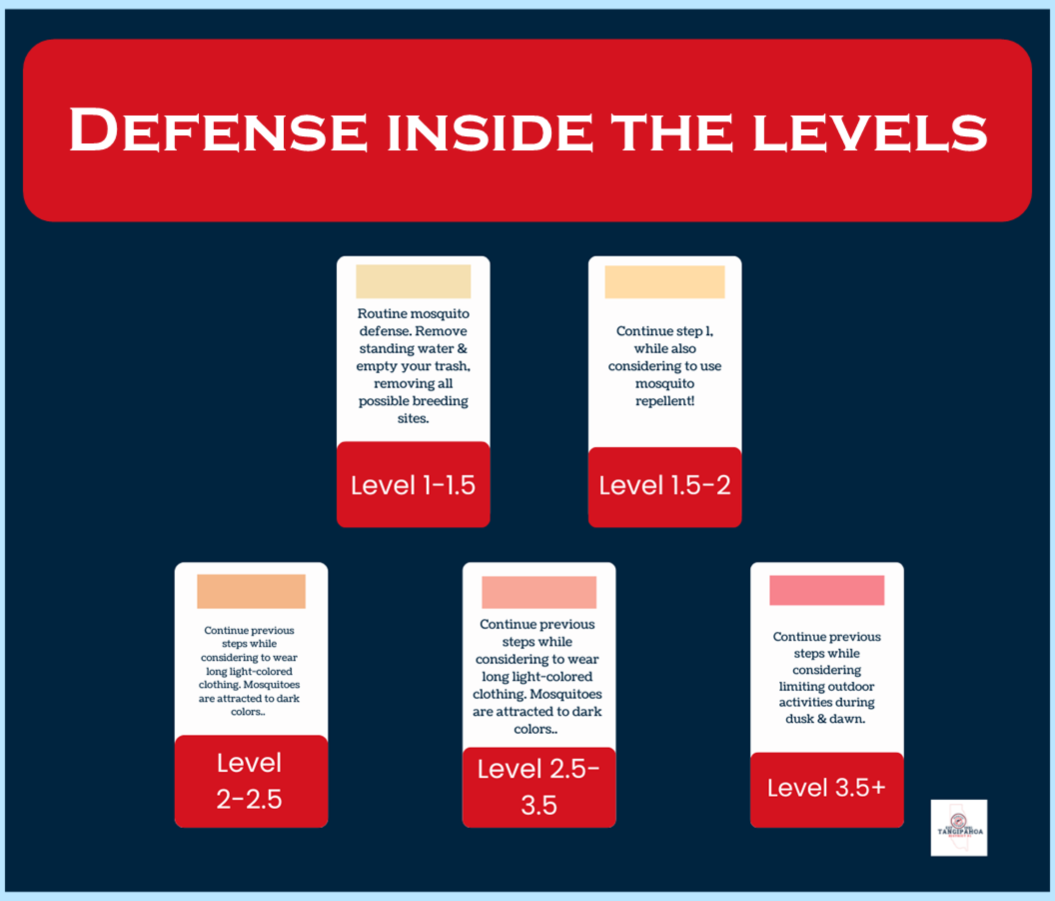
The Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District has detected its first West Nile Virus activity of the year. Two mosquito samples located in the Hammond Area have tested positive for the disease.

West Nile Virus is the most common mosquito-borne disease in the continental United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control, most people infected with WNV do not feel sick.

About 1 in 5 people who are infected develop a fever and other symptoms, with about 1 in 150 infections leading to a serious, sometimes fatal illness.

"While the risk of West Nile virus is still relatively low, we urge all Tangipahoa residents to take proper precautions against mosquitoes as we head into the peak season for disease activity," says Director Colby Colona.

TMAD is asking residents to follow basic mosquito-defense methods such as applying repellent, wearing long sleeves, and removing standing water from around their homes. Hammond residents should follow these steps while also considering minimizing their time outdoors at dawn and dusk.



DEFENSE INSIDE THE LEVELS

Routine mosquito defense. Remove standing water & empty your trash, removing all possible breeding sites.
Level 1-1.5

Continue step 1, while also considering to use mosquito repellent!
Level 1.5-2

Continue previous steps while considering to wear long light-colored clothing. Mosquitoes are attracted to dark colors..
Level 2-2.5

Continue previous steps while considering to wear long light-colored clothing. Mosquitoes are attracted to dark colors..
Level 2.5-3.5

Continue previous steps while considering limiting outdoor activities during dusk & dawn.
Level 3.5+

For more information about West Nile Virus, please visit: https://www.cdc.gov/west-nile-virus/about/index.html

Leadership Tangipahoa State Government Day

By Latasha Michele and Donnie Colona

Latasha Michele

Donnie Colona

As we draw closer to the end of Leadership Tangipahoa 2024-2025, we traveled outside of Tangipahoa Parish to Baton Rouge, specifically the State Capitol, where were able to get a small glimpse into all things government for our beloved state.

We began our day by watching a committee meeting to gain insight into newly proposed legislation.

Next, we were off to a very detailed and unfiltered tour of the State Capitol led by the very expressive Bernard Gouaux, of the Louisiana Office of Tourism. During this tour, we learned how then Governor Huey P. Long commissioned and funded the construction of the State Capitol.

The extensive and unique architecture was constructed with the finest materials from all over the world, and it remains the tallest skyscraper in Baton Rouge and the tallest state capitol in the United States. The Capitol houses the chambers of the Louisiana House of Representatives, the Senate, and the office of the State Governor, currently Jeff Landry.

After the conclusion of our tour, we were introduced to Representative Nicholas Muscarello Jr., who met with our group in the Governor's Press Office Room, followed by a look into the Governor's Office, where we were able to capture a quick group photo.

We then ventured off to the Old State Capitol where we were hosted by the Secretary of State Nancy Landry for lunch, where she discussed some of the duties of her office and answered questions we had about her role in government.

As the Chief Election Officer, she encouraged us to be-

(See LEADERSHIP Page 4)

TANGI GUMBO

A little bit of everything you need to know

Tangipahoa Parish Government, along with our community and regional partners, spent much of the day Wednesday fine-tuning our emergency response plans for the 2025 Hurricane season. The National Weather Service presented the latest forecast information and offered an update on the tools their office will be sharing with us through storm season. #TeamTangi also heard powerful messages from our own Parish President, Robby Miller, Tangipahoa's OHSEP Director, Dawson Primes, Brigadier General (Ret.) Rodney Painting, and Brigadier General Jason Mahfouz, Louisiana's interim director of GOHSEP, who praised Tangipahoa's efforts to keep our people safe. Painting described Tangipahoa's efforts as a "model," not only across the state but throughout the nation. Parish President Robby Miller thanked the more than 200 participants who gathered for the kick-off meeting, reminding us that we are truly stronger together and that our efforts to keep our residents safe are just one more reason why Tangipahoa is the #BestParishInTheState.

Officials from Southeastern Louisiana University and the Young Entrepreneurs Academy recently met with student Libny Hernandez of Hammond High Magnet School, this year's second-place winner of the 17th Annual National Competition in New York. YEA is an innovative after-school program that enables seventh through 12th-grade students to generate business ideas, conduct market research, write business plans, pitch to a panel of investors, and launch their own companies. Southeastern is the host of YEA! Northshore through its Small Business Development Center. The students selected to compete had participated in a local nine-month program, where participants attended classes and worked with mentors and investors to develop and pitch their business ideas. Hernandez was the winner of the 2024-2025 YEA! Northshore class and qualified to compete on a national level. As the second-place winner, she was awarded two scholarships and a cash prize. She worked 23 weeks, during which she developed her commercial dumpster cleaning business, Fresh Dump. The whole competition can be viewed on the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!) YouTube channel.

Acting U.S. Attorney Michael M. Simpson announced that Tracie L. Mixon, 43, of Hammond, Louisiana, was sentenced on May 27, 2025, to two years in federal prison for making false statements to fraudulently obtain a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan under the CARES Act. Mixon falsely claimed on a February 2021 SBA loan application that she had no prior convictions for federal financial fraud, despite having previously pleaded guilty in Virginia for student loan and mail fraud involving stolen identities. U.S. District Judge Susie Morgan also ordered Mixon to pay $31,000 in restitution and serve three years of supervised release.

The Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office is warning residents of a recent surge in phone scams, with callers impersonating TPSO officers and demanding payment for supposed warrants, civil fines, or missed jury duty penalties. Officials stress that these calls are fraudulent—TPSO does not collect payments over the phone or call residents to resolve warrants. Anyone receiving such a call is urged to hang up immediately and verify the legitimacy by calling the Sheriff's Office directly at 985-748-3334 or 985-748-3328. Residents are also reminded to avoid opening suspicious email attachments and never to share personal information with unfamiliar sources. Authorities are encouraging the public to stay alert and help spread the warning to prevent further victimization.

Miss Southeastern, Tangi's own Eva Delatte, has

(See TANGI GUMBO Page 6)

POS

(PERSON OF SUSPICION) OF THE WEEK

POS David Bonfiglio

POS Logan Andrews

POS Jimmy Pierce

Jimmy Dale Pierce, 47, of Kentwood, has been booked on 24 counts of Pornography Involving Juveniles Under 13.
David Bonfiglio Jr., 27, of Tickfaw, has been booked on 3 counts of Pornography Involving Juveniles Under 13.
Logan Andrews, 20, of Ponchatoula, has been booked on 2 counts of Pornography Involving Juveniles.

Last week, the TPSO ICAC Unit started tracking a suspect uploading child sex abuse material online. The files were then shared and traded over multiple platforms.

The investigation identified Pierce as the initial upload source, and he was taken into custody on May 19. A search of Pierce's electronic device confirmed that he was in possession of the child sexual abuse material.

This investigation remains ongoing, targeting the others involved in trading the material.

At the same time, multiple cyber tips came in to our team about a separate case regarding the uploading of child sexual abuse materials online. Through the investigation, Bonfiglio was identified as the suspect. He was taken into custody while on his parish maintenance job on May 21.

Finally, this week, again thanks to cyber tips, Logan Andrews was identified as an individual uploading child sexual abuse material online. He was taken into custody on Wednesday, May 28.

**All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty*

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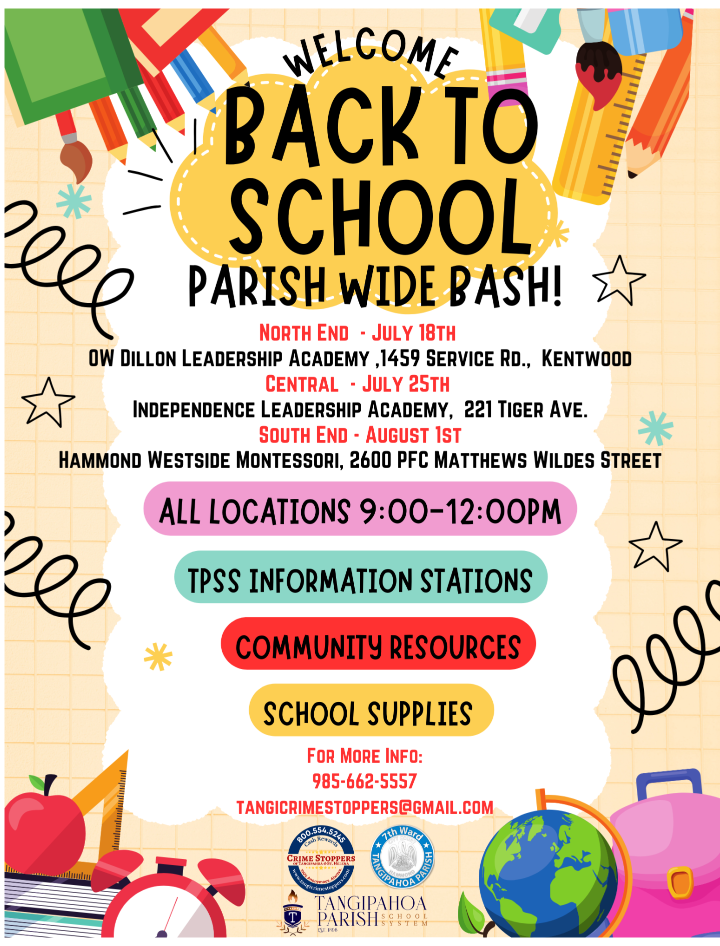

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CENTRAL - JULY 25TH
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Tangipahoa Chamber Kicks Off Tangi Culinary Summer Passport

From Tangipahoa Chamber

The Tangipahoa Chamber is proud to announce the return of its highly anticipated Tangi Culinary Summer Passport, running from June 1 through August 21, 2025. With over 55 participating restaurants and more than 60 locations across Tangipahoa Parish, the Passport invites locals and visitors to embark on a parish-wide culinary adventure. This year's Passport features even more Tangipahoa Chamber member restaurants, bakeries, coffee shops, and bars than ever before, offering a delicious way to explore Tangipahoa's vibrant food scene with family and friends.

"This initiative was born out of a real need," said Melissa Bordelon, President and CEO of the Tangipahoa Chamber. "The summer months are traditionally slower for our restaurant members. Working with our Restaurant Industry Roundtable, we created something fun and impactful to help drive traffic to our businesses when they need it most."

With a wide variety of cuisines and dining experiences, the Tangi Culinary Summer Passport serves up more than just a taste of Tangipahoa. It also offers the chance to win exciting prizes, including weekly $25 gift card giveaways and tiered rewards, plus a shot at the grand "Blackout" prize valued at $1,500, awarded to one Passport holder who returns a fully stamped booklet!

"This Passport Program is our way of inviting the community to support our members while enjoying some of the best food our parish has to offer," said Tangipahoa Chamber Board Chairman, Chance Enmon. "It's a great way to go see your favorites and visit places you haven't tried before!"

Passports are free and available while supplies last at the Tangipahoa Chamber office, located at 400 N. Railroad Avenue in the historic train depot in downtown Hammond, Monday through Thursday from 9:00am to 3:00pm, or at any participating Tangipahoa Chamber-member restaurant during kickoff week. Once picked up, passport holders can digitally activate their booklet and begin collecting stamps by dining at participating establishments.

For updates, participating restaurant spotlights, and prize announcements, follow the Tangipahoa Chamber on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Dr. Robert Derenbecker Joins North Oaks Cardiology

From North Oaks

North Oaks Health System is proud to welcome Dr. Robert Derenbecker, a highly skilled fellowship-trained and board-certified cardiac electrophysiologist. He will join North Oaks Cardiology on July 1. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Derenbecker, call (985) 230-7350.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to give back to the community I grew up in. As a cardiac electrophysiologist, I'm bringing a much-need service to Tangipahoa Parish and North Oaks Medical Center for the first time," explains Dr. Derenbecker.

As a cardiac electrophysiologist, Dr. Derenbecker specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of complex heart rhythm disorders, including atrial fibrillation, conduction-system pacing and the prevention of sudden cardiac death. He is certified in echocardiography by the National Board of Echocardiography and in cardiovascular disease and internal medicine by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Derenbecker's journey back to Hammond is marked by excellence in education and training. He completed a clinical cardiac electrophysiology fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio and a cardiovascular medicine fellowship at the University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, where he served as chief fellow from 2022 to 2023 and was recognized as Best Research Fellow in 2022. His internal medicine residency was completed through the Osler Medical Training Program at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He earned his medical degree from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine in New Orleans.

"By combining advanced technology with a personalized approach to care, I'm committed to improving my patients' heart health and helping them live fuller, healthier lives. That begins by considering their unique story and medical history to determine which diagnostic and therapeutic options to recommend to them."

Professionally, he is a member of the American College of Cardiology, American Medical Association and the Heart Rhythm Society.

North Oaks Cardiology is located in the North Oaks Clinic Building at 15813 Paul Vega, MD, Drive, Suite 403, in Hammond. Other North Oaks Cardiology providers include Drs. Nidal Abi Rafeh, Jherie D. Ducombs, Bruce Ennis, Georges Khoueiry, William P. Kopfler, and James M. Parker; Physician Assistants Olivia Buquoi, Hailey Detillier, Donna Foster and Dayana Frazer; and Nurse Practitioners Alexandra Battalora, Jean Genzale, Kristen King and Jasmine Severan. Clinic hours of operation are weekdays from 8 am to 5 pm.

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Obituaries

Joella Agard Walley; 27; May 27; Viewing will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at Red Oaks Baptist Church, 28760 Red Oaks Rd., Livingston, LA, at 10am until the religious service at 11am.

Mary Ellen Barton; 85; May 28; Viewing will be held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at New Providence Baptist Church, 5235 Church St., Zachary, LA, at 9am until the religious service at 11am.

Lucas Joseph "Luke" Travasos; 76; Hammond; May 28; survived by his wife, Pat Norwood Travasos; son, Craig Michael Travasos (Kelli); daughter, Regina Travasos; and grandchildren, Chad "Mikey" McGuire and Jaxtyn Lucas Travasos.

Mary Ellen Carlson Coburn; 72; May 29; survived by her husband, Chuck; children, Angie Coburn, Travis Coburn, and Carla Taylor (Bradley); three grandsons; mother, Barbara Meeker; mother-in-law, Delores Coburn; siblings, Paul (Carmen), Sue (Jerre), and Nancy; in-laws, Mary Beth (Arne), Jay, Paul (Tammie), Linda, and John; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Dorothy Gordon Daniel; 81; Kentwood native; May 29; Religious Service will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at Faith Hope and Fellowship Church, 10186 Wheat Rd., Amite City, LA 70422, at 11am.

Olivia Clay Huey; 100; May 30; Viewing will be held on Friday, June 6, 2025, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 1120 Myrtle Walk, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, at 9am until the religious service at 11am.

Ruth Marie Morrow Tubbs; 78; May 30; survived by her daughter, Robin Tubbs Blackmer (Matthew); sons, Kirk (Odile) and Jason Tubbs (Lacy); brother, Ronald Morrow (Cathleen); grandchildren, Sydney Anderson, Jake Anderson, Aubreigh-Ana Tubbs, Landry Tubbs, Holly Tubbs, Randi Tubbs; and great-grandchild, Andie Chatman.

Mary Ann Frickey; 81; Amite; June 1; survived by her daughters, Candee Thompson (Louis) and Sandee Frickey; grandchildren, Anna Frickey Alcock, Christina Rodriguez, Alicia Rodriguez, and Stacey Brennen; four great-grandchildren; and step-daughter, Jeannette Priest.

Rev. A.W. O'Quinn, Sr.; 89; Pine Grove; June 2; survived by his daughters, Jerry Cook (Terry) and Wanda Ellis (James); sons, David O'Quinn (Brenda) and A.W. "Buddy" O'Quinn, Jr. (Sherry); bonus daughter, RaeJean Tubre (Shane); nine grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; sisters, Maureen and Margaret; numerous nieces and nephews; and his church family.

Angel Corzo; 72; Holden; June 2; survived by his loving wife, Eva Menche; son, Joshua Menche; and fur babies, Sasha and Reina.

Joseph John "Joey" Galofaro III; 68; Hammond; June 3; survived by his sons, Dr. Brian Joseph Galofaro (Kristi) and Matthew Jacob Galofaro (Bailey); sister, Nancy Cruse (Jimmy); and grandchildren, Abby McNeal, Lauren McNeal, Ella Galofaro, and Mason Galofaro.

Ora Lee Spears Pope; 91; May 28; Viewing will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at MJR Friendly Service Funeral Home, 87 Paddio Johnson Ln., Greensburg, LA 70441, at 9am until the religious service at 11am.

LEADERSHIP

Continued from Page 3

come election workers, due to a current shortage, along with other ways to become involved in the election process. We ended this stop by watching "The Ghost of the Castle" presentation.

Up next, we visited the office of Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser and met with Sharon Calcote of Louisiana Tourism. Among other topics, she discussed the importance of state tourism to local economies. She noted several state attractions and landmarks, as well as available grants to support access to the arts for all and the creation of arts programming that reflects the unique cultures and priorities of our communities.

This eventful day continued as we journeyed back to the State Capitol, where we were recognized by the House of Representatives and the Senate and posed for a quick photo op. We were able to meet several of our state's delegation, including Senator Bill Wheat, as well as Representatives Kim Coates, Shane Mack, and Robby Carter. Several bills that directly impact Tangipahoa Parish were being proposed during this legislative session.

Finally, we ventured to the top of the State Capitol to see the panoramic view of the Mississippi River and the area surrounding the Capitol. A few souvenirs were purchased, and we were off to the bus. A few more photos were taken on the steps of the Capitol as we ended our day of State Government.

On the bus ride back to Tangipahoa Parish, we discussed the memorable moments of the day. Regardless of our individual party affiliation and voting preferences, we were all able to reflect positively on the encounters and experiences of the day. We were issued our invitations for graduation ceremony, as well as a ballot to vote for the person to represent our class on the board for the next year, then we departed for the day.

We would like to thank Mr. Nick Gagliano for planning such an amazing itinerary for State Government Day. Also, we owe a special thanks to our personal sponsors, Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center and Tangipahoa Parish Government.

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UNKNOWN THE EATER

Hawk's Nesting Café

6131 LA-10 Suite A, Greensburg
Varied hours, opening at 4:30am except Sun, 11am

Overall score:
3.5/5 stars – quite good

Sometimes you just need some good ol' soul food, and the other day, this Unknown Eater needed it. Luckily, I was in Greensburg, and I found the right place: Hawk's Nesting Cafe.

Let's start with the basics. The first thing is that parking is readily available – and if you work in the parish seat of St. Helena, it's within walking distance of almost anything. Luckily, at lunchtime, parking on the east side of the lot has plenty of shade, which is great this time of year.

When you walk in, you get the old, small-town sandwich shop feel with booth seating only. I noticed that the place is very clean and has a pair of good-sized TVs to entertain customers. That being said, if (as my late grandfather used to call it) "the idiot box" doesn't interest you, there is a pool table in the middle of the floor. And even better, there is a rack in the corner that holds the area's new local paper, The Tangi Times.

During my two visits, there wasn't much need to kill time because my orders came out very quickly. My first time in, I tried the comfort food option, the cheeseburger. The burger was good – worth the money, but what stuck out the most was the friendly service.

There is something nostalgic about getting burgers and dogs in a smalltown café that says "Americana." Speaking of the red, white & blue, hats off to the place for proudly hanging the star-spangled banner during the week of Memorial Day. That was a big plus to this unknown eater.

My first trip featured food that you eat with your hands, so I decided to try something more traditional on my return visit. I ordered the lunch special – pork chops. That's when I got a surprise. When they brought out my order, it was in a to-go plate with plastic utensils (I'll get back to that in a moment). My lunch got out to me very quickly, but it was fresh and certainly did not seem to have spent the latter part of its freedom under a heat lamp.

Back to the utensils (and this eater's opportunity for improvement). I will say that eating chops with plastic was not ideal, but I also understand that it's practical for the establishment, which seems to have a substantial takeout business.

As for the food – I liked the pork chop and would recommend it. The cheesy spaghetti and mashed potatoes were also very good.

After the comfort food and the soul food, it was on to the most important meal of the day for my third try. I tried the Big Breakfast, featuring over-medium fried eggs, grits, toast, and bacon. What stuck out to me was the fact that it took a bit longer than either of the lunches I had – and it was worth the wait. I've eaten at other places where the bacon or eggs – or EVEN WORSE, the grits – are lukewarm or even cold. That was not the case here.

I am a big fan of eggs and grits, but unless you order them a special way, you pretty much know what to expect. They were both served hot and fresh. They also needed very little seasoning or butter.

The gem of the meal was the bacon. It was cooked just the way I like it; plus, they were thick cuts and were freshly served to me.

Like the lunches, my breakfast was served in a foam to-go plate; again, not ideal, but I can understand why they do it that way.

Hawk's Nesting shares a parking lot with a church, so alcohol sales are not allowed. All soft drinks are in bottles and cans, so there are no refills. What is unique about the quaint little gem is that they offer the widest variety of soft drinks that I have seen. They offer Coke, Dr. Pepper, and Pepsi products.

Overall, Hawk's Nesting Café has a good mixture on the menu. The food is very good; so is the service, and I can't complain about the prices. The Unknown Eater recommends this Greensburg grillery when you're in St. Helena.

MAILBOX MAGIC

Continued from Page 1

Now, if you're thinking, I want a pen pal! (and you should), it's important to find one safely – especially for kids. For children, the best way to start is through a school program, a youth group, or a trusted organization like Scouts, 4-H, or a library club.

Always make sure an adult is supervising the matchup, and letters should be read together at first. There's no need to share personal details like phone numbers or social media. Safety and privacy are still important, so if possible, use a P.O. Box or another address that doesn't reveal your home location.

Adults have lots of options too. There are reputable websites like Global Penfriends, Postcrossing (for postcard exchanges), or even social media groups dedicated to snail mail fans.

Look for programs that verify user accounts and offer guidelines for safe communication. And always trust your instincts – if someone seems fishy, cut the line.

So this National Pen Pal Day, consider picking up a pen and sending a note to a friend, an old classmate, or even a stranger from a pen pal program. You never know – your new best friend might be waiting with a postage stamp and a really cool collection of stationery.

Southeastern School of Nursing Offers Direct Admit Program

From Southeastern

For the first time, Southeastern Louisiana University's School of Nursing has offered direct admittance to highly qualified high school seniors interested in obtaining a nursing degree. Called the EDGE (Early Decision Guaranteed Entry), the program's 2025 inaugural cohort is composed of 74 students from 17 Louisiana parishes.

"To me, having the opportunity to be accepted into and hold a place in the inaugural class of the EDGE program is very special. Southeastern is quite reputable throughout Louisiana for its outstanding and competitive nursing program," said Parkview Baptist School graduate Riley Hauck of Baton Rouge. "The creation of EDGE demonstrates just how much this nursing program is growing in size, strength, and competitiveness, as well as how much Southeastern, as a university, remains dedicated to student development and education. I am very excited to see where my next four years at Southeastern will take me and beyond honored to have a place in this inaugural class of the EDGE program."

EDGE offers graduating seniors guaranteed admission into the program if they meet certain criteria. High school students must have a 3.7 high school grade point average, a 25 ACT composite score, and apply for admission to the university by Jan. 15. Once accepted into the program, EDGE students must have completed prerequisite courses and be ready to progress into nursing courses within three semesters; and they must meet application guidelines for the School of Nursing – 3.0 grade point average in nursing prerequisites and a 'C' or better in all nursing courses. Students in the EDGE program will also enroll in a SE 1010 or SE 1010H section dedicated to EDGE students.

"We are so excited to be the first nursing school in the state of Louisiana to offer this unique direct admit program. High school seniors interested in pursuing a nursing career will receive guaranteed admission into our program based on their grade point average and ACT scores," said School of Nursing Department Head Lindsay Domiano.

"Getting accepted into the EDGE Program felt like my future finally came into focus. Knowing I have a guaranteed spot in the nursing program takes away so much uncertainty and stress," said Springfield High School graduate Kacie Riddle. "It's reassuring to have a clear path and support system already in place. For me, it's not just about getting into nursing—it's about starting my journey with confidence and purpose, knowing I'm one step closer to making a real difference in people's lives."

For more information about the EDGE program, contact the School of Nursing at 985-549-2156 or nursing@southeastern.edu.

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Tangipahoa Professional Women's Organization Scholarship Awards Luncheon

From TPWO

(Courtesy Photo)

TPWO scholarship recipients and board members

The Tangipahoa Professional Women's Organization recently held our 2025 Scholarship Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at the beautiful Oak Knoll Country Club. It was an inspiring afternoon, where we awarded a total of 12 scholarships to remarkable women from Tangipahoa Parish who are dedicated to pursuing higher education and career advancement.

The ceremony was opened by Lisa N. Hughes, our TPW President, who then introduced Pastor Sarah Morgan, our President-Elect and the chair of the scholarship committee. Sarah shared encouraging words with the recipients, expressing our pride in their achievements and thanking them for their contributions to our community as emerging leaders in the business world. She highlighted their hard work, dedication, and perseverance, underscoring our belief in their future success and the organization's commitment to supporting them on their journey.

Following Sarah's inspiring message, Lisa had the honor of presenting the 12 scholarship recipients, while Sarah awarded each of them a $1,500 scholarship to support their educational goals.

We are delighted to announce the 2025 TPW Scholarship Recipients:

* Rejoice Adewale
* Cassi Anderson
* Divya Chadha
* Helena Cieutat
* Kendall Duncan
* Ragan Hoover
* Elle Martin
* Celeste Mauro
* Nicole Nichols
* Regyana Robertson
* Layla Summers
* Caroline Walters

Additionally, the co-chairs of Women Mean Business, Bethany Beougher, and Kadie Sewell, along with the entire TPW Board, would like to extend their sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of the 2025 Women Mean Business Conference. We are incredibly grateful to all those who attended, participated in committees, and helped with the event preparations.

We also want to acknowledge the generous support of the many companies, small businesses, organizations, and TPW members who sponsor the conference annually and donate raffle items. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our Tangipahoa Parish Community, we were able to award $18,000 in scholarships this year to deserving women from our parish who are pursuing educational opportunities. Your contributions have been instrumental in the success of the annual Women Mean Business Conference, and we eagerly anticipate your continued support in the future.

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Presidents Luncheon

From the Gardenettes

(Courtesy Photo)

Seated: District VI Director Vicky Fannaly; Phyllis Young, Bogalusa Garden Guild. Standing: Alisa Janney, Baton Rouge Garden Club; Kim Vanek, Covington Garden Club; Kim Callegan, West Baton Rouge Garden & Civic; Sandy Grimm, Belle Oaks Garden Club; Susan Pizani, Gardenettes; Virginia Bruce, Denham Springs Garden Club; Susan McNeese, Mt. Hermon Garden Club; Nancy Jenkins, Designs by Pines.

Sixty garden club presidents and members attended the President's Luncheon May 28 at Middendorf's Restaurant, hosted by Vicky Fannaly, District VI Director for the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc. (LGCF).

This annual business meeting sets guidelines for LGCF's two-year term of office. Members of District VI, which covers a twelve-parish area, consists of thirteen member clubs. All clubs are members of Deep South Garden Clubs Inc. and National Garden Clubs Inc.

Fannaly was installed at the LGCF Convention in Alexandria in April. A member of Belle Oaks Garden Club (Hammond) and Gardenettes (Ponchatoula), Fannaly also belongs to the Ponchatoula Library garden club and Tangipahoa Master Gardeners. She is treasurer of North Shore Daylily Society and vice president of a zoom garden club based in Oklahoma.

In her 45th year as a member of Gardenettes, Fannaly has served four times as president. In LGCF, she holds a life membership, Circle of Roses honor, and a Lifetime Achievement award. She received the Maude Viskell silver tray for floral design in 1988. She follows her late mother-in-law, Ruth Schmidt Fannaly, who held the position as District VI Director in 1955-1956.

District VI will meet again October 23 in Madisonville. The event will be hosted by Covington Garden Club.

Complimentary Veterans Breakfast
Saturday, June 14, 2025 @ 8:00am
First United Methodist Church of Ponchatoula
201 East Pine Street, Ponchatoula
All veterans are invited.
Veterans may bring a guest.
Questions: call Wanda Gilyard @ 504-460-9852

Pet Dedication

Mr. Beauxjangles

Loved and missed the most by the Easterling family

GUMBO

(FROM PAGE 3)

advanced to the Top Five in the People's Choice category for Miss Louisiana 2025. The winner of People's Choice will receive an automatic placement in the Top 11 at the 2025 Miss Louisiana Competition. The voting closes on Friday, June 21, at 9:00pm. Each dollar donated equals one vote. Cast your vote for Eva today at www.spotfund.com/teams/missla-peopleschoice2025.

District Attorney Collin Sims announced that a St. Tammany Parish grand jury has indicted three Slidell teens—Adrian Waughtal, Mason Fischer, and Michael Lanier—in connection with the March 23, 2025, death of Sergeant Grant Candies of the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, who was killed while deploying a spike strip during a high-speed chase. Waughtal and Fischer, both seventeen, were indicted for second-degree murder and multiple related charges, while eighteen-year-old Lanier was indicted for manslaughter and other offenses. The case was presented by Assistant District Attorneys Ronnie Gracianette and Gary Tromblay, with detectives Sean Scott and Jacob Schwebel leading the investigation. Although Louisiana law allows the death penalty for killing a police officer, all three suspects were seventeen at the time of the incident, making them ineligible for capital punishment under the U.S. Supreme Court's 2005 ruling in Roper v. Simmons. The defendants are scheduled for arraignment on July 14, 2025.

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Waddell Family Southeastern Channel Sports Media Scholarship Awarded

From Southeastern

(Courtesy Photo)

From left, Gateway Ford President Allen Waddell and Alli Dominique

Southeastern Louisiana University recently announced that student Alli Dominique of Slidell has been awarded the 2025 Waddell Family Southeastern Channel Sports Media Scholarship.

A recent graduate of Salmen High School, Dominique is the first recipient of the honor offered to incoming freshmen from the Northshore area intending to major in sports communication at Southeastern. In addition to a $1,000 cash award, Dominique also secured an official internship on the Southeastern Channel sports staff for the 2025/2026 academic year.

Dominique qualified for the award due to previous sports-oriented work for her school as well as social media posts featuring her skills as a still photographer.

"Being able to capture someone's special moments, like a senior night or their first homerun, is an incredible feeling - the reaction they have to the pictures is amazing," said Dominique. "Covering sports for the Southeastern Channel will be amazing because I will be able to learn from fellow students while pursuing my goal of becoming a professional sports journalist."

The Waddell Family Southeastern Channel Sports Media Scholarship was established this year as a joint initiative between the Southeastern Channel and Allen Waddell of Gateway Ford in Ponchatoula, an alumnus of Southeastern and a former Southeastern Channel student staff member.

"Sports media and my experiences at the Southeastern Channel have had a monumental impact on my life, continuing to this day with my own engagement with Southeastern Athletics as both a sponsor and a broadcaster," said Waddell. "This scholarship is one way we're able to impact the next generation of sports media professionals."

Applications for the Waddell Family Southeastern Channel Sports Media Scholarship are accepted through the Southeastern Channel Website. For more information on upcoming awards, go to https://thesoutheasternchannel.com/waddell-scholarship/.

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Nine Former Tulane Football Players Sign with NFL Teams

By JOEL RAY
Tangi Times Sportswriter

Tulane defensive back Caleb Ransaw was selected in the third round of the 2025 NFL Draft by the Jacksonville Jaguars. His selection is the first time that a Tulane player has ever been selected by the Jaguars in the history of the franchise.

Fellow Tulane defensive back Micah Robinson was selected the next day in the seventh round of the NFL Draft by the Green Bay Packers. Overall, Robinson is the 16th player the Packers have ever chosen from Tulane.

Robinson is the 26th Tulane player that has been chosen in the NFL Draft since 2000. He is the second Tulane defensive back that has been chosen this year.

Following the conclusion of the 2025 NFL Draft, in addition to the two drafted Tulane players, seven other Tulane football players signed rookie free agent contracts with NFL teams. They are: Reggie Brown (Chicago Bears), Johnathan Edwards (Indianapolis Colts), Dontae Fleming (Minnesota Vikings), Adin Huntington (Cleveland Browns), Patrick Jenkins (New Orleans Saints), Vincent Murphy (Chicago Bears), and Mario Williams (Los Angeles Rams). All of those players signed with NFL teams prior to rookie camp starting.

This is the third straight year that Tulane has had multiple players drafted in the same draft.

Overall, Ransaw and Robinson are the 151st and 152nd Tulane football players that have been chosen in the NFL Draft.

Tangi Times Sportswriter Joel Ray is a member of the Louisiana Sports Writers Association.

Campus Corner

By PABLO CREWES
Tangi Times Sportswriter

This week's campus corner has a couple of hoopsters being honored for their play on the court and work in the classroom. A Lady Lion track star moves on to the nationals, and women's basketball adds two more.

Late last week, Sam Hines Jr. of the SLU men's basketball squad was named the Southland Conference Student Athlete of the Year and First Team Academic All-Conference. The junior from Marietta, GA, started all 32 games in a season, where he averaged 16.4 points, 6.4 rebounds, and 2.1 assists.

Earlier in the spring, Hines, who carried a 3.89 Grade Point Average, was named the SLC's Newcomer of the Year and First Team All-Southland. Teammate Brody Rowburry also got the All-Academic nod. The junior from Meridian, ID, sported a 3.44 GPA while averaging 8.6 points and 5.4 boards in 31 outings.

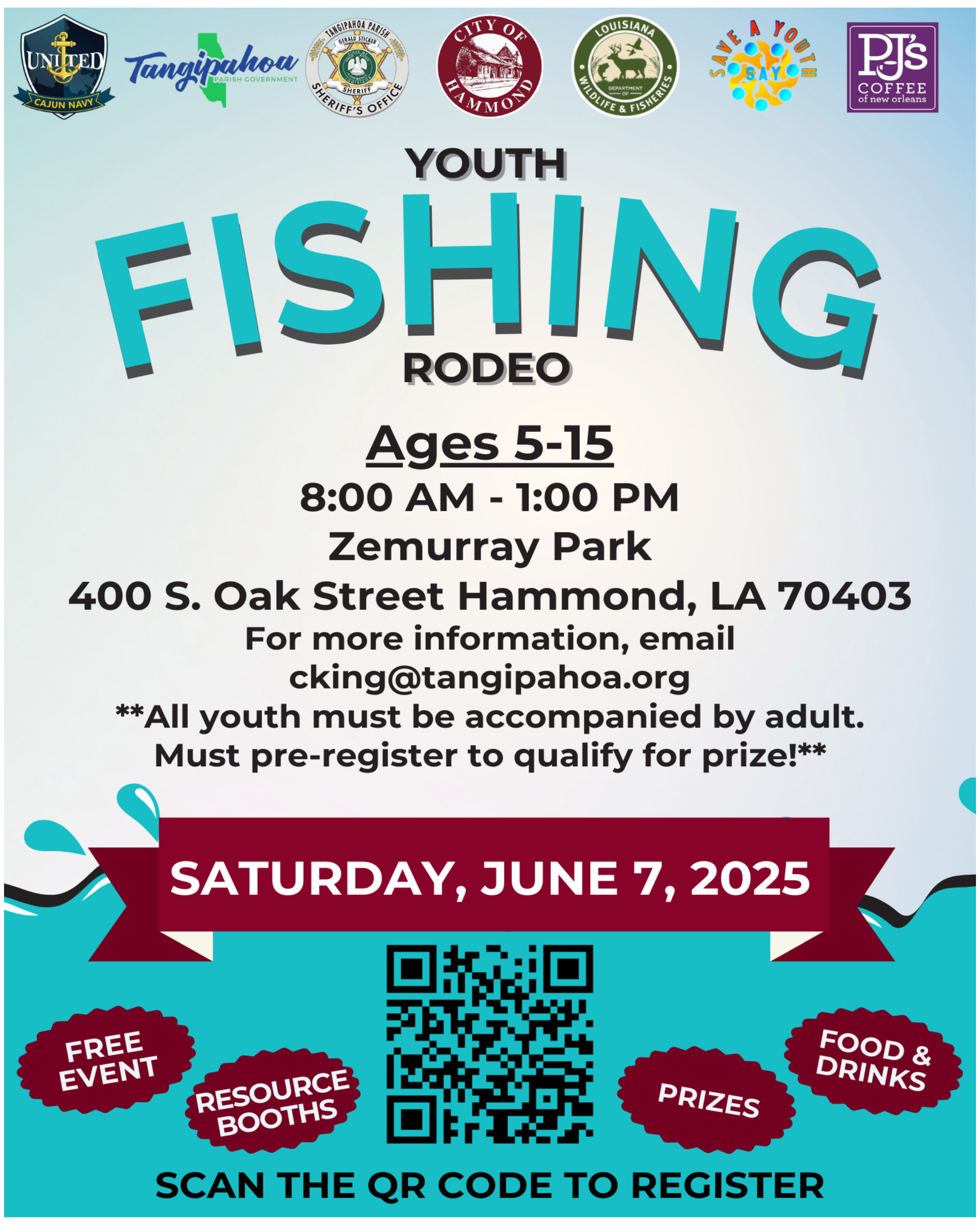
Moving outside… on Saturday, Onyah Favour punched her ticket to the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field National Championships in the 400-meter. The sophomore from Asaba, Nigeria's time of 51.94 was good enough for fourth at the National Championship East first round in Jacksonville, FL, earning a spot in the nationals on June 12 in Eugene, OR.

New Lady Lion basketball coach Jeff Dow, who might have been the busiest man in the Florida Parishes since being hired in March, added a couple more for the 2025-26 roster, including an import. Lihi Azouri joins Southeastern for her sophomore campaign.

The 5'8" guard comes to Hammond from Gush Dan, Israel, where she competed on the FIBA national teams from 2021-24. Last season, she averaged 13.8 minutes a game, averaging 4.1 points, including a season-best 14 against Hungary.

She is joined by fellow newcomer and potential backcourt mate Erynn Williams, who comes to town from Saginaw, MI, via LSU-Shreveport and Delta College. In 2023-24, Williams helped her team to a 30-3 mark, appearing in 32 contests, averaging 5.8 PPG, and hitting the glass for 2.9 a night. Williams has one year of eligibility left, while Azouri has three.

You can read up on all of these and more online at lionsports.net.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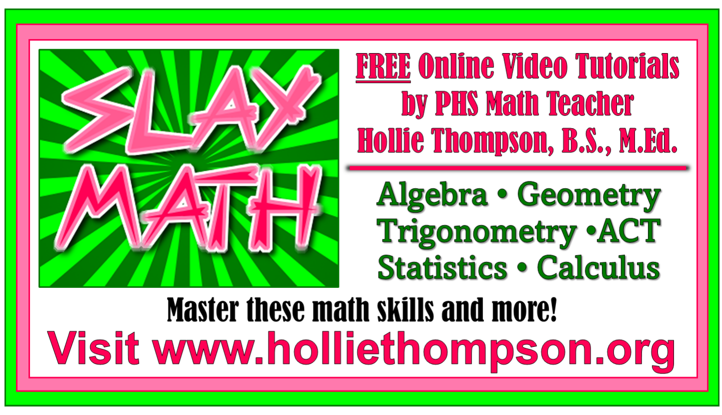
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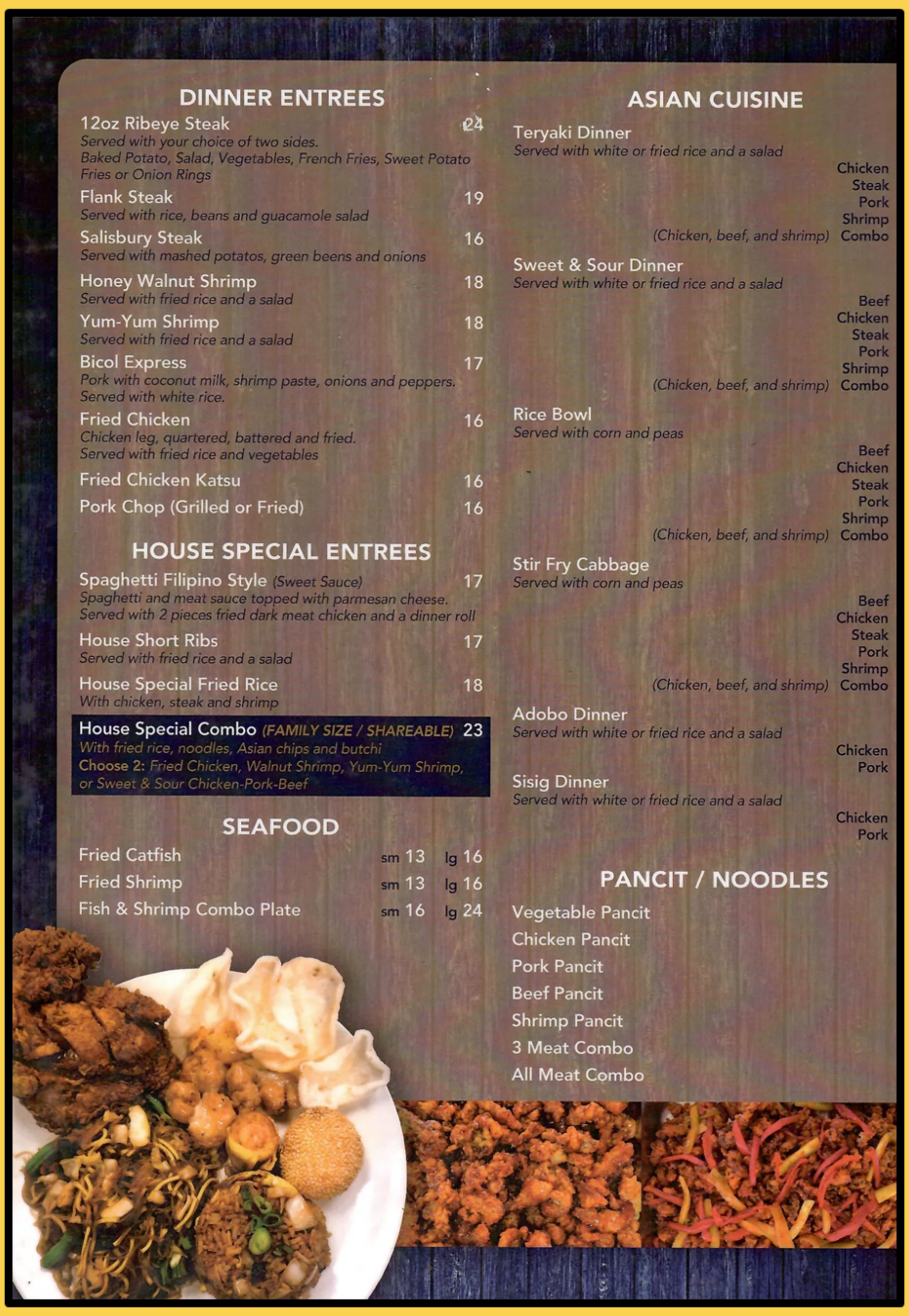

DINNER ENTREES

12oz Ribeye Steak *Served with your choice of two sides. Baked Potato, Salad, Vegetables, French Fries, Sweet Potato Fries or Onion Rings*	24
Flank Steak *Served with rice, beans and guacamole salad*	19
Salisbury Steak *Served with mashed potatos, green beens and onions*	16
Honey Walnut Shrimp *Served with fried rice and a salad*	18
Yum-Yum Shrimp *Served with fried rice and a salad*	18
Bicol Express *Pork with coconut milk, shrimp paste, onions and peppers. Served with white rice.*	17
Fried Chicken *Chicken leg, quartered, battered and fried. Served with fried rice and vegetables*	16
Fried Chicken Katsu	16
Pork Chop (Grilled or Fried)	16

HOUSE SPECIAL ENTREES

Spaghetti Filipino Style *(Sweet Sauce)* *Spaghetti and meat sauce topped with parmesan cheese. Served with 2 pieces fried dark meat chicken and a dinner roll*	17
House Short Ribs *Served with fried rice and a salad*	17
House Special Fried Rice *With chicken, steak and shrimp*	18
House Special Combo *(FAMILY SIZE / SHAREABLE)* *With fried rice, noodles, Asian chips and butchi* **Choose 2:** *Fried Chicken, Walnut Shrimp, Yum-Yum Shrimp, or Sweet & Sour Chicken-Pork-Beef*	23

SEAFOOD

Fried Catfish	sm 13	lg 16
Fried Shrimp	sm 13	lg 16
Fish & Shrimp Combo Plate	sm 16	lg 24

ASIAN CUISINE

Teryaki Dinner
Served with white or fried rice and a salad
Chicken
Steak
Pork
Shrimp
(Chicken, beef, and shrimp) Combo

Sweet & Sour Dinner
Served with white or fried rice and a salad
Beef
Chicken
Steak
Pork
Shrimp
(Chicken, beef, and shrimp) Combo

Rice Bowl
Served with corn and peas
Beef
Chicken
Steak
Pork
Shrimp
(Chicken, beef, and shrimp) Combo

Stir Fry Cabbage
Served with corn and peas
Beef
Chicken
Steak
Pork
Shrimp
(Chicken, beef, and shrimp) Combo

Adobo Dinner
Served with white or fried rice and a salad
Chicken
Pork

Sisig Dinner
Served with white or fried rice and a salad
Chicken
Pork

PANCIT / NOODLES

- Vegetable Pancit
- Chicken Pancit
- Pork Pancit
- Beef Pancit
- Shrimp Pancit
- 3 Meat Combo
- All Meat Combo

Congratulations to Phillip Barbay for being the first to identify last week's menu from Buddies Steakhouse in Hammond!

Restaurants: to be featured in Name that Menu, email publisher@tangitimes.com.

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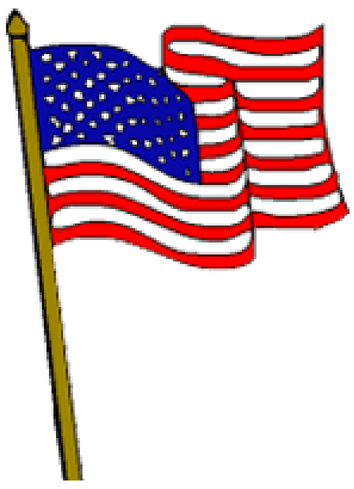

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Robert Supermarket
Robert Pharmacy

Roseland
Sky's Pantry

Springfield
Landry-Poché Farm
Childers Grocery
P'Maw's Bait Shop

Tangipahoa
TG Mini Mart

Tickfaw
Alissa's Beauty Salon

Watch the growth of this Tangi Times retailer list!

The Tangi Times Music Notes

The Tangi Times Music Notes	ROUX & BREW Downtown Ponchatoula	LA CARRETA FRESH • FUN • FESTIVE LOUISIANA Ponchatoula
Wednesday, June 4	Callie Arthur (5-8:30 pm)	
Thursday, June 5	Cross Threaded Band (5:30-9 pm)	TJ Barends (6-9 pm)
Friday, June 6	Lance Villafarra (6-9:30 pm)	Sylas Faust (6-9 pm)
Saturday, June 7	Trey Morgan (10-1:30) Pat Cataina (2-5:30 pm) Annette Mooney (6-9:30 pm)	Sylas Faust (6-9 pm)

Feature Shows

Streetside Market Hammond
Thursday, 6/5 @ 6pm
Bayou Bike Daquiris Roseland
Saturday, 6/7 @ 8pm

GRACIE MARIE

Schedules are Subject to Change